

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JC872 U.S. PTO  
09/924298  
08/08/01

APPLICANTS: Bryan et al.

SERIAL NO.: Continuation of  
Serial No.  
09/783,910

GROUP ART UNIT:

FILED: August 8, 2001

EXAMINER:

FOR: IMPLANTABLE JOINT PROSTHESIS

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 46739/250564

Assistant Commissioner for  
Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

DATE: August 8, 2001

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(c)

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(c) and MPEP § 708.02(IV), Applicants respectfully request that this application be made special based on the age of Applicant Alex Kunzler. As indicated in the attached Statement, Applicant Kunzler is 65 years of age or older.

Applicants request that the PTO advance this application out of turn for examination and continue to treat this application as special throughout the entire prosecution thereof in the PTO.

Please charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment in fees to Deposit

Order Account No. 11-0855.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce D. Gray', written over a horizontal line.

Bruce D. Gray  
Reg. No. 35, 799

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Bryan et al.

SERIAL NO.: Continuation of serial GROUP ART UNIT:  
number 09/783,910

FILED: August 7, 2001 EXAMINER:

FOR: IMPLANTABLE JOINT PROSTHESIS

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 46739/250564

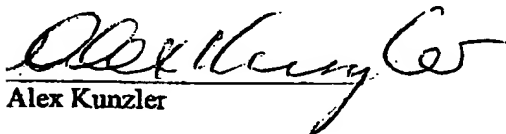
Assistant Commissioner for  
Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

DATE: August 7, 2001

## STATEMENT MADE IN SUPPORT OF PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL

I, Alex Kunzler, am an inventor in the above-noted patent application. In support of a Petition to Make Special, I hereby state that my date of birth is February 23, 1931, and as such I am over 65 years of age.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

  
Alex Kunzler